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| Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) | | | |
| Draft revision of Resolution 15 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017)  “Applied research and transfer of technology” | | | |
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| **Agenda item:**  Item 7.2  **Summary:**  The contribution proposes to revise WTDC Resolution 15 taking into account ITU Constitution, and the Addis-Ababa Action Agenda of the 2015 Third International Conference on Financing for Development.  **Expected outputs:**  This document containing a draft RCC Common proposal, has been submitted to the RPM-CIS (April 2021) for information.  **References:**  ITU Constitution Article 1, paragraph 19 on the Purposes of the Union; and Article 21 paragraph 124 on the Functions and Structure of Telecommunication Development Sector.  Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference. | | | |

RESOLUTION 15 (Rev. Addis-Ababa, 2021)

**Applied research and transfer of technology**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Addis-Ababa, 2021),

*recalling*

*a)* ITU Constitution Article 1, paragraph 19 on the Purposes of the Union, and the Article 21, paragraph 124 on the Functions and Structure of Telecommunication Development Sector.

*b)* the Tunis Commitment of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), recognizing the principles of universal, non-discriminatory, equitable and affordable access to information and communication technology (ICT) for all nations and all persons everywhere (see §§ 15, 18 and 19);

*c)* Resolution 64 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on non-discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, and e-meetings, on mutually agreed terms,

*d)* Addis-Ababa Action Agenda of the 2015 Third International Conference on Financing for Development, endorsed by the Resolution 69/313 of UN General Assembly, which recognizes transfer of technology as a powerful driver of economic growth and sustainable development,

*e)* Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation endorsed by the Resolution 64/222 of UN General Assembly, which emphasizes the need to promote, including through South-South cooperation, access to and the transfer of technology,

*recognizing*

*a)* that many countries would benefit from technology transfer;

*b)* that joint ventures can be effective means of technology transfer;

*c)* that seminars and training conducted by various countries as well as by international and regional organizations have contributed to the transfer of technology, and hence to the development of telecommunication/ICT networks in the region;

*d)* that providers of telecommunication/ICT equipment and services are important partners in ensuring the flow of technology to developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1) and that they are ready to enter freely into such arrangements;

*e)* that applied research is a promising activity for developing countries;

*f)* that a great number of engineers originally from developing countries contribute to applied research in developed countries;

*g)* that research institutes in developed countries have substantial human and material resources compared to developing countries;

*h)* that a relationship of partnership and cooperation between applied research centres and laboratories improves technology transfer,

*i)* that cooperation between the developing countries, including through South-South cooperation channels, holds enormous potential for effective technology transfer.

*resolves*

*1* that, based on agreement among parties concerned, transfer of technology in the area of telecommunications/ICT, which is of benefit to developing countries, should be supported as much as possible, in respect of both conventional technology as well as new technologies and services;

*2* that developing and developed countries should continue to cooperate through exchanges of experts, the organization of seminars, specialized workshops and meetings, establishing contacts between telecommunication/ICT applied research institutions, including by means of teleconferencing, etc.;

*instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in collaboration with the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau*

*1* to continue to hold specialized seminars, workshops or training in the field of telecommunications/ICTs in order to raise the technological level in developing countries engaging research and development institutions from both developing and developed countries;

*2* to continue to promote the exchange of information among international organizations, especially among international and regional financial institutions, donor countries and recipient countries on transfer of technology, including by assisting them in setting up cooperative networks between telecommunication/ICT research institutes in developing and developed countries;

*3* to assist in the elaboration of terms of reference guaranteeing technology transfer;

*4* to continue to develop handbooks addressing technology transfer, as well as to ensure that these handbooks are disseminated to developing countries and that users are properly initiated in their use;

*5* to give financial support to academic institutions, universities and research institutes in developing countries so as to enable their admission in the work of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector as Sector Members or Associates, at a reduced level of financial contribution, particularly academic institutions of developing countries,

*6* to establish active, to accomplish the tasks outlined above

*invites developing countries*

*1* to continue establishing new telecommunication/ICT research projects and to submit them to existing applied research institutes in order to facilitate cooperation with other research institutes;

*2* to participate in the activities of standards development organizations,

*3* to participate in joint activities and transfer of technologies in the field of telecommunication/ICT between developing countries,

*invites telecommunication equipment and service providers*

pursuant to the Geneva Declaration of Principles of the first phase of WSIS and the Tunis Commitment of the second phase, to make relevant new technologies and know-how available to their customers in developing countries on a voluntary basis and/or in accordance with sound commercial principles,

*appeals to international organizations and donor countries*

to assist the developing countries in exploring ways and means of improving technology transfer and developing telecommunication/ICT applied research centres and laboratories, including technical and financial assistance.

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1. These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)